

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:SHAMRICK:CJ
APPROVED BY AF/E:RPOST
S/S-O:SRPVALERGA
AF:WCHARROP
PM:CCECIL
DOD/ISA:COL. HILLEBRANDT (SUBS)
-----053213 021749Z /46
R 021629Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

S E C R E T STATE 139881

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SO, US

SUBJECT: US MILITARY SURVEY TEAM TO SOMALIA

1. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON SIAD'S DELAY IN RESPONDING TO EMBASSY NOTE PROVIDING MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING RE US MILITARY SURVEY TEAM. EMBASSY'S PRESENTATION (MOG 1122) APPEARED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT US AWAITING GSDR REPLY TO NOTE BEFORE TEAM'S VISIT CAN BE SCHEDULED BUT WE WONDER WHETHER SOMALI OFFICIALS MIGHT HAVE ATTACHED DIFFERENT INTERPRETATION.

2. IF THERE ARE POLITICAL REASONS WHY SIAD MIGHT BE RELUCTANT TO RECEIVE US SURVEY TEAM AT THIS TIME, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EMBASSY'S ANALYSIS OF REASONS FOR AND LIKELY RESULTS OF SUCH RELUCTANCE.

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3. AT PRESENT TIME, TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR TEAM'S GUIDANCE DURING ITS VISIT TO SOMALIA ARE BEING PUT IN FINAL FORM. PRELIMINARY DATE FOR TEAM'S DEPARTURE WAS TENTATIVELY TARGETED FOR JUNE 17 BUT THAT DATE WAS BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT WE WOULD BY NOW HAVE AN AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE TO OUR NOTE. HAVING IN MIND THAT TEAM'S ARRIVAL WILL FOLLOW

RECEIPT OF GSDR REPLY BY TWO TO THREE WEEKS, EMBASSY SHOULD

ALSO PROVIDE ANALYSIS OF POLITICAL EFFECT OF RELATIVELY
PROLONGED DELAY, EVEN IF REASON THEREFORE IS GSDR FAILURE
TO RESPOND TO OUR NOTE.

4. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO ADVISE DEPT OF ANY OTHER FACTORS
WHICH MIGHT AFFECT TIMING OF SURVEY TEAM'S VISIT (E.G.
WHETHER IT IMPORTANT FOR TEAM TO ARRIVE WHEN SIAD IS IN
MOGADISCIO). CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SURVEYS, MILITARY SALES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE139881
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SHAMRICK:CJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780231-0770
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806101/aaaadizv.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 140f777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2140425
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US MILITARY SURVEY TEAM TO SOMALIA
TAGS: MARR, SO, US, (MOHAMED SIAD BARRE)
To: MOGADISCIO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/140f777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014